

Senate Resolution 880

By: Senators Hudgens of the 47th, Cowsert of the 46th, Shafer of the 48th, Douglas of the 17th, Smith of the 52nd and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending Mr. Gordon Beckham; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia is proud to call Mr. Gordon Beckham one of the finest
3 citizens, athletes, and humanitarians this state has ever produced; and
- 4 WHEREAS, a native of Atlanta, Georgia, Mr. Beckham attended The Westminster School
5 where he was a standout athlete, leading the football and baseball teams to victorious
6 seasons; and
- 7 WHEREAS, upon his graduation from high school, Mr. Beckham began his collegiate career
8 with the University of Georgia baseball team, anchoring the team at shortstop for three years
9 and earning recognition as All-American and SEC Player of the Year; and
- 10 WHEREAS, he led the Bulldogs during the 2008 College World Series, where the team
11 placed second in the nation; and
- 12 WHEREAS, after his junior year, Mr. Beckham was drafted by the Chicago White Sox and
13 was called up to the majors on June 3, 2009, after a short stint playing for the team's minor
14 league program; and
- 15 WHEREAS, he led the rookie class of 2009, with an impressive batting average of .270 and
16 racking up 14 home runs and 63 RBIs; and
- 17 WHEREAS, after the completion of his first season in Major League Baseball, Mr. Beckham
18 was voted the American League Rookie of the Year by the Major League Baseball Players
19 Association, a prestigious title given after a vote of all players in the league; and
- 20 WHEREAS, Mr. Beckham was named the 2009 American Rookie of the Year by *Sporting*
21 *News*; and

22 WHEREAS, off the field, Mr. Beckham devotes his time to improving the lives of others
23 with his work with the National Parkinson's Foundation and the Children's Hospital of
24 Illinois; and

25 WHEREAS, through his unwavering generosity and compassion in helping his fellow man
26 and his dedication and determination to the sport of baseball, Mr. Beckham serves as an
27 extraordinary role model for our youth and is a shining example to all.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
29 commend Mr. Gordon Beckham for his invaluable community involvement, congratulate
30 him on his outstanding rookie season in the major leagues, and extend to him sincere best
31 wishes for continued success in the future.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
33 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. Gordon Beckham.